



News and Events in the 5th Grade  
September 6, 2011  
[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

### **Important Dates**

Sept. 7	MAP testing - Reading
Sept. 7	Curriculum Night
Sept. 12 - 14	Free Dental Clinic
Sept. 19	Picture Day
Oct. 7	Personal Narrative Writing Assignment Due

### **Dear Families,**

Tomorrow is Curriculum Night. The Fifth Grade presentation will be held in Room 203. We will have a presentation at 6:00 and will repeat the same presentation at 7:30. We hope that all parents and guardians will be able to join us tomorrow.

A free dental clinic will be held September 12-14. Information forms went home last week and are due September 7. Examinations performed at this free clinic satisfy the 6th grade dental exam requirements, so take advantage of this opportunity if you can.

All 5th grade students will take the MAP test for reading this week. We will use the results of this test to tailor the reading curriculum to the needs of individual students. Students who are absent on Wednesday will have the opportunity to take the test later in the week.

### **Art**

The Art Room blog is back! Please check out [www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com). Here you can see what your student is learning about in Art, and see our artwork as well.

### **Language Arts/Writing**

Focus: Personal Narratives: write about one specific experience that changed how you acted, thought, or felt.

Personal narrative writing assignment sheets, content checklists and the six traits writing rubrics were given to students today (Tuesday). The personal narrative will be graded using the six traits rubric. In order to generate ideas, we will examine examples of personal narratives such as: My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother, Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge, and Jerry Spinelli's Knots in My Yo-Yo String.

### **Social Studies**

The tribe projects went very well last week. Students also learned to complete Cornell Notes on reading in the social studies textbook. This reading strategy helps students identify the main idea and supporting details for each lesson. This week, we will focus on how the first people traveled to North America over the Beringia. Students will identify various tribes in North America and the characteristics unique to each tribe.



## Reading/Literature

### Unit Title

Introduction to Treasures and Reader's Workshop

### Essential Question

What is reader's workshop?

What are the procedures for reader's workshop?

### Word Study Skill

Idioms and Adages

Context Clues

- using clues from the text to figure out the meaning of an unknown word)
- Types: Definition and Appositive Definition, Synonyms and Antonyms, Example and General

### Comprehension Skill

Nonfiction Text Structures

- Knowing the structure and purpose of nonfiction text will enhance comprehension
- Types: Description, Sequence, Cause and Effect, Problem-Solution

## Math

Graded quizzes were returned to students today. Please ask your child to see his/her quiz. All 5th grade students took the math MAP test last Wednesday. We will use the results of the test to develop flexible groups to better address the needs of individual students. All 5th graders should now be signed up to participate in the 5th grade stock market trading contest. Students will have time during the week to trade, and the online contest is also accessible from home at [www.howthemarketworks.com](http://www.howthemarketworks.com).

This week in math, we will work on prime, composite and square numbers. We will also use calculators to determine the square root of a number. Each 5th grade student should have a calculator, preferably a TI-15 calculator. The TI-15 has the capability of computing with fractions and is particularly well-suited for the 5th grade math curriculum. TI-15 calculators are available for purchase at a cost of \$16. If you would like to purchase a calculator for your child, please send cash or a check payable to Holmes School.

## Science

This week we will continue to study land pollution and discuss ways in which we can prevent pollution. In the next few weeks, 5th grade students will begin actively participating in various 'green' activities in the school. We will be working with Earth Tub (composting), starting up the worm bins (vermiculture) and evaluating the school's recycling program. There will be a short quiz this Thursday, covering the basic vocabulary we discussed last week.

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